DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 284 599 JC 870 318

AUTHOR Gross, Edmund K.
TITLE Linking Public Higher Education: Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida: A White Paper.
PUB DATE Sep 86
NOTE 13p.; Report from the Conference for Joint Articulation between Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida (Orlando, FL, September 19, 1986).
PUB TYPE Viewpoints (120) -- Speeches/Conference Papers (150)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Articulation (Education); College Planning; Community Colleges; Conferences; *Cooperative Planning; Higher Education; *Intercollegiate Cooperation; Long Range Planning; *Regional Cooperation; *Shared Resources and Services; *Transfer Policy; Transfer Programs; Two Year Colleges

ABSTRACT

In September of 1986, a joint articulation conference was held between the Open Campus of Valencia Community College (VCC) and the University of Central Florida (UCF). The conference brought together administrators, faculty, and staff from the two colleges to review current areas of cooperation, examine common concerns, and explore new opportunities for cooperation. Future cooperative endeavors were recommended for the areas of: (1) academic affairs (e.g., implementation of faculty exchanges, development of a transfer manual, and sharing of facilities and equipment); (2) student affairs (e.g., improved evaluation of transcripts, meetings of student affairs representatives of the two institutions, and better coordination of academic calenders); (3) business affairs (e.g., regular meetings of purchasing agents of both institutions, study of the feasibility of making joint purchases of supplies and equipment, and sharing of computer software); and (4) planning, development and external affairs (e.g., joint presentations to appropriate legislative delegations, collaboration in private fund-raising activities, and sharing of state reports on enrollment and degrees conferred). (PAA)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED284599

Linking Public Higher Education: Valencia Community College and The University of Central Florida

A White Paper

Edmund K. Gross
Provost, Open Campus
Valencia Community College

Report from the Conference for Joint Articulation
between
Valencia Community College
and the
University of Central Florida

Orlando, Florida, September 19, 1986

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Edmund K. Gross

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

X Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

JC 870318

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

INTRODUCTION

The academic year 1986-87 has marked the beginning of a new era of cooperation between Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida.

Sparked by the leadership of Dr. Paul C. Gianini, Jr., President of Valencia Community College, and Dr. Trevor Colbourn, President of the University of Central Florida, the institutions have sought to meld a new relationship and to explore avenues in which both might work cooperatively.

On September 19, 1986, a joint articulation conference was held at the East Campus of Valencia Community College. Led by Dr. Edmund K. Gross, Provost of the Open Campus at Valencia Community College, and Dr. Frank Juge, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Central Florida, administrators, college and university staff and faculty were brought together to discuss common concerns and to explore and map new paths for cooperative ventures. The conference also served as a catalyst to establish new bonds of friendship and for planning of additional meetings.

This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list of actions taken. This document is called a White Paper because it is a summary of the initial steps in a long-range, ongoing process. It is hoped that as the list enlarges, the spirit of cooperation will continue to grow in both institutions, and that the students, the college, the university, and the community will be beneficiaries of this endeavor.

VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA: EXCELLENCE THROUGH COOPERATION

I. History

Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida are vibrant institutions serving Orange and Osceola Counties (VCC) and East Central Florida (UCF). Both institutions were established in the middle 1960s and have seen continued growth in enrollment, programs, and facilities. During the period of time from the mid-60s to now, each institution has endeavored to serve the population of Orange and Osceola Counties and the greater Orlando area by carving its own separate path to excellence.

With the foresight of two strong leaders, Dr. Trevor Colbourn and Dr. Paul C. Gianini, Jr., a new cooperative approach is being taken. It is hoped that this strengthened relationship will provide new cooperative agreements and joint ventures that will directly benefit the students, the institutions, and the community. Before reviewing these activities, the reader is reminded of the history and purpose of these institutions as described in their cataloges.

A. History and Purpose of the University of Central Florida

The University of Central Florida, a member institution of the State University System, was formerly Florida Technological University. The name was changed by action of the Florida Legislature on December 6, 1978.

The University of Central Florida is a general purpose state university which combines a contemporary and local role with one which is both traditional and universal. As part of the State University System of Florida, UCF seeks to serve the needs of the immediate community and the larger region in which it is located. As a university in the traditional sense, UCF seeks to serve its national and international constituents through its quest for new knowledge, for the enrichment of the imagination and the preservation of the knowledge and learning gleaned from previous generations and civilizations.

The University offers educational and research programs which complement a diverse economy with strong components in such fields as aerospace, banking, electronics, health, and tourism. Its programs in communication and the fine arts help to meet the cultural and entertainment needs of a growing metropolitan area.

In common with other universities, the University of Central Florida addresses its broader purpose through a general education program designed to produce well-rounded men and women with a balance of communicative and mathematical skills; historical, social, and scientific knowledge; and with ethical, aesthetic, and artistic sensitivity.

In brief, the University's purpose in both its undergraduate and graduate programs is to provide its students with a significantly enhanced opportunity to lead lives which are both productive and meaningful.

The University of Central Florida philosophy is based upon two tenets: accent on

the individual and accent on excellence. The University believes in the individual worth of each person and especially encourages the responsible individual who strives for excellence in every activity.

Research is considered an important part of advanced study and UCF provides students with opportunities for research projects and independent study. Many projects involve community service and opportunities for students to experience real situations while receiving individual guidance from faculty.

UCF adheres to the principle that the University is primarily a community of scholars, both national and international, in pursuit of knowledge and active in teaching, studying, and doing research. The presence of international students on the campus contributes substantially to the quality of the educational experience for everyone. It can bring to the classroom learning environment unique viewpoints and perceptions which would otherwise be lost to the U.S. students. Effective personal contact across cultures can reduce errors in understanding one another's problems and will foster a climate on international peace and cooperation among people of the world today.

The University of Central Florida, in order to serve the community better, makes higher education easily available to the citizens of East-Central Florida by operating off-campus centers and offering off-campus credit courses to citizens of the area.

B. History and Purpose of Valencia Community College

Valencia Junior College was founded in February 1967 by the Orange County Board of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education under the authority granted by the 1961 session of the Florida Legislature.

In the fall of 1967, the Charter Class, limited to freshman students, began classes in temporary facilities at 2908 West Oak Ridge Road, Orlando.

On July 1, 1969, the College Advisory Committee became the Valencia Junior College District Board of Trustees and replaced the Orange County Board of Public Instruction as the governing body of the college.

The granting of full accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1969, the changing of the name from Valencia Junior College to Valencia Community College in 1971, the moving to a first permanent campus in 1971, the adding of Osceola County to the college district in 1974, the creating of the Open Campus in 1974, and the opening of the East Campus in 1975 all contributed to the early, exciting, and formative years.

Valencia's mission is to provide comprehensive postsecondary education and lifelong learning opportunities that foster individual growth and community development. In conformity with the principles described above, Valencia Community College has developed the following specific objectives:

1. To provide a two-year college parallel program which will prepare students to transfer to senior colleges and universities upon completion of the Associate in Arts degree

2. To provide career programs that will prepare students for gainful employment in the community upon completion of an Associate in Science

degree

3. To provide continuing education courses, programs, and activities to meet the needs of the community in the areas of vocational training, cultural, and recreational activities and to upgrade professional skills as requested by the citizens of the college district

4. To provide guidance and counseling services for all students. These services shall be available to day and evening students and shall be organized to assist the students in self-evaluation and in making appropriate decisions dealing with personal, academic, and career planning.

5. To provide basic and developmental programs to give students needing academic assistance a greater chance for success

6. To provide educational leadership, especially in the improvement of instruction, in research, and in curriculum

7. To provide an additional cultural center for the community

II. Purpose of this Document

On September 19, 1986, a Joint Articulation Conference between VCC and UCF was conducted on the East Campus of Valencia Community College. Administrators, faculty members, and staff personnel were brought together to review current areas of cooperation, to examine common concerns, and to explore new opportunities for mutual cooperation.

The following is a compilation of the current activities and future plans resulting from the conference. The material is organized under traditional area descriptions of academic affairs, student affairs, business affairs, and of planning, development and external affairs.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Encompassed in this area is the work being undertaken relative to the articulation of academic programs, courses, and policies in both the credit and noncredit areas. It also takes into consideration several related areas of academic support – the library (or LRC), audio/visual services, and facilities.

CURRENT

Cooperative endeavors in the area of academic affairs currently in effect include:

* Meetings being held between individuals of both institutions on an as-needed basis to discuss routine problems or concerns

* Further implementation of the common course numbering system

* Discussions being held regarding the articulation of certain programs and related transfer concerns

* VCC student and faculty access to books from UCF and vice versa

* Utilization by students from each institution of library resources on the premises of the other's learning resources center
* Joint institutional participation in the Central Florida Library Directors meetings

FUTURE

Cooperative endeavors currently being developed or considered in the area of academic affairs include:

* Development and implementation of faculty exchange programs with the appropriate and adequate incentives
* Enhanced recruitment of minority faculty and staff between institutions
* Establishment of regularly-scheduled meeting times to allow interaction to occur more frequently
* Exploration of opportunities for cooperation in developing a common academic calendar and the articulation of academic programs
* Development of a transfer manual for community college students transferring to the university
* Sharing facilities and equipment wherever feasible
* Sharing course schedule/publications
* Conducting joint departmental meetings to discuss course sequence, text selection, course materials, and evaluation policies
* Employment of UCF graduate students at VCC as appropriate
* Sharing of certain of the in-service costs of the learning resource centers
* Initiation of dial-in access to the UCF on-line library catalog system
* Reciprocal visitations to professional staff meetings at each institution
* Sharing of information concerning LRC automation, developing research skills, and vendor presentations
* Sharing of surplus copies of standard editions
* Exchange of directories and LRC staff expertise

* Exploration of the feasibility of a courier service between the two institutions
* Sharing of design expertise when LRC facilities are to be built or renovated
* Joint study of student perceptions of the adequacy of services available from each LRC
* Cooperation of Valencia with UCF in expansion of Valencia's VTV/Audiobridge
* Expansion of staff development activities in the use of television, audio-instruction, and computer-instructional counseling
* Full effort by Valencia, as the university pursues its general off-campus credit and noncredit programs, to cosponsor these programs as appropriate

STUDENT AFFAIRS

The purpose of this section is to consider the myriad of direct student support services including financial aid, registration and admission, orientation, academic and career advisement, and student activities.

CURRENT

Cooperative endeavors in the area of student affairs currently in effect include:

* An articulation program has been implemented
* CLAST review courses are taught through a combined effort
* A common student transcript document exists
* Student academic records are transferred via computer tapes to UCF
* A special orientation is conducted at UCF for transfer students from VCC
* A special registration time has been provided at UCF for transfer A.A. degree graduates

FUTURE

Cooperative endeavors currently under study in the area of student affairs include:

* Better coordination of information for CLAST
* Improved evaluation of transcripts
* Better coordination of academic calendars
* Improvement of the high school/college dual-enrollment student application process for transfer to UCF

* Expanded electronic transfer of academic records between institutions
* Further coordination of financial aid, scholarship, and veterans' benefits for transfer students
* Provision of enhanced career advisement programs
* Exploration of transportation discounts; entertainment discounts; athletic event discounts; scheduling of guest speakers, entertainers, orchestras, and cultural events; sharing newspapers and activity calendars; conducting open house programs and joint in-service workshops for staff members
* Improving communications between clubs and organizations through the student activity manuals
* Meetings of student affairs representatives of the two institutions on a regular basis
* Meetings of members of the UCF Orientation Team with VCC staff to identify potential problems
* Review of a joint statement to enhance the educational, cultural, and international activities available in the community
* Consideration of the implementation of a semester-long student orientation course at VCC and UCF
* Joint staff work toward the development of an effective mutual expression of the student activities function for each institution
* Provision of VCC West Campus office space on a permanent basis for use by representatives from UCF for student contact
* Promulgation of information concerning financial aid at UCF to students who are currently receiving financial aid at VCC
* Conducting of informative presentations at VCC by UCF faculty members and/or department heads concerning their respective departments or colleges

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

The cost of support services for any institution of higher education are a constant concern. When dollars can be saved through cooperative arrangements, limited financial resources may be better utilized in the operation of both institutions. Such areas as purchasing, physical plant, security, maintenance, telecommunications, and inventory control are prime targets for the development of such cooperative relationships.

CURRENT

The staffs share information from time to time about equipment specifications and vendors.

FUTURE

Cooperative endeavors under study in the area of business affairs include:

* Meetings on a regular basis of purchasing agents of both institutions for the exchange of data and ideas concerning the implementation of a minority purchasing program, exchanging bid specifications, and vendor sources
* Staff study of the feasibility of making joint purchases of supplies, equipment, and materials which are common to both institutions
* Personnel staff will work toward sharing human resources and combining their efforts for in-service training where feasible
* Efforts will be made to share personnel for maintainence of telecommunications and computer systems
* Sharing of information about new and innovative facilities
* Studies will be undertaken to ascertain the feasibility of implementing joint fringe benefit programs
* Sharing computer programs for purchasing, inventory control, accounting, and budgeting will be considered
* Business affairs staff with similar functions will meet on a regular basis to discuss mutual problems and solutions
* Sharing costs for security personnel will be studied
* Sharing costs for facilities and maintenance will be reviewed and considered
* Joint contracts with food or cafeteria vendors may be studied

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Each institution recognizes that one of its primary purposes is to play an integral part in the economic development of Central Florida. Recognizing that the provision of quality education is the number one means by which the institutions can contribute to the economic development of the area, both the college and the university are committed to seeking methods to maximize their own financial resources in order to perform at the highest level possible. These areas include but are not limited to: technology, research, grants, public relations, planning, private fund-raising, and legislation efforts.

CURRENT

In addition to the efforts over the last few months as reflected in this document, other current activities include:

* In the area of grants, contracts, and research efforts, an agreement has been reached to exchange the list of faculty interested in developing joint proposals and a list of proposals and grants and contracts awarded, as well as lists of resources and publications in the area of grants and contracts
* Joint uses of the data resources of the F.I.R.N. network
* Creation of a new spirit of cooperation between the staffs of these functional areas
* In the broad area of public relations, marketing, and academic communication there has been activity initiated by Presidents Colbourn, Gianini and Dr. Thaddeus Seymour of Rollins College which has involved external speakers and mutual discussions among faculty and staff of each institution.

FUTURE

Joint and cooperative planning, development, and other related activities under consideration include:

* Economic development assistance will be pursued
* Industrial development will be promoted
* Close work with the Greater Orlando Chamber of Commerce Project 2000 will be undertaken
* Joint cooperation with the respective committees of 100, Industrial Development Commission, and other such entities will be undertaken
* Joint presentations to for appropriate legislative delegations, Senate and House

Education Committees, Post-Secondary Education Planning Commission, the Board of Regents, and the State Board of Community Colleges will be developed

* Joint receptions or other meetings for the local legislative delegations and appropriate dignitaries will be held to broaden support and emphasize the unified educational needs of Central Florida
* Efforts will be made to obtain the joint support of Foundation Boards of Directors, Advisory Committees, Alumni Associations, and other groups
* Presentations will be made to various groups of educators and other professionals to demonstrate that a coordinated and comprehensive effort toward excellence in education is being made
* In private fund-raising, both institutions will collaborate to solicit 2 + 2 scholarships and other financial support
* Expertise for training purposes in technology will be shared
* VCC/UCF computer linkage will be developed
* Faculty members will be encouraged to develop joint proposals when seeking governmental grants
* VCC and the UCF public relations offices will share press releases, calendar events, and student newspapers when possible
* UCF and VCC will share database information where feasible to support student retention and placement follow-up research efforts
* VCC will share state reports with UCF on enrollment and degrees conferred
* Each institution will share completed institutional studies
* This document may be utilized to assist in recruitment of future businesses wishing to locate in Central Florida
* A presentation to UCF-feeder community colleges will be developed to share the merits of this initial effort
* The presidents and members of their staffs will make presentations to the Board of Regents, State Board of Community Colleges, and other groups and organizations

relative to these joint efforts

* The two institutions will work in the area of international education to develop cooperative efforts involving funding activities, and to investigate the cosponsorship of cultural activities funded by external grants and contracts
* VCC and UCF will cooperate in sponsoring programs and meetings whereby officials from state and federal agencies may visit the campuses
* The institutions will encourage the development of joint proposals in: computer science, handicapped research, arts and humanities, natural science, social science, engineering, foreign language, nursing, and international studies

CONCLUSION

While much remains to be accomplished in the implementation of this monumental list, it is hoped that this document demonstrates and articulates a limited review of the activities and goals available to further strengthen the relationship between Valencia Community College and the University of Central Florida. While this document was not intended to cover every item or issue being pursued, its intent is to provide the reader with a general awareness of the numerous and comprehensive efforts being made by the two institutions. It is believed that the single most important thrust of this document will be to demonstrate clearly to the business and professional community, as well as to local and state governmental authorities, that the higher education community has identified areas which, if supported, will improve the educational quality of each institution, and thus have a significant impact on Central Florida. Cooperation and coordination are human functions and, therefore, this document merely describes an ongoing and continuous process which will be further defined and amplified over time. This document lays the foundation for future programs affecting Central Florida.

ERIC Clearinghouse for
Junior Colleges SEP 04 1987